

PATENT
10/022,611

C. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In order to better assist the Examiner with the prosecution of the case, the current pending claims have been included in their entirety for which reconsideration is requested.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for billing for telephone usage, said method comprising:

tracking, at a telephony device, usage of [a] at least one measurable element of said telephony device itself by an identifiable individual, wherein said identifiable individual is distinct from an owner of said telephony device, wherein said usage of said measurable element is separate from any use of telephone service to said telephony device for a call;

calculating, at said telephony device, a tariff for a cost of said amount of usage of said measurable element of said telephony device by said identifiable individual based on a cost per unit of actual usage of said measurable element specified by said owner of said telephony device;
and

transferring [a] said tariff to bill a billing plan for said identifiable individual for said tracked usage of said measurable element of said telephony device from said telephony device via a telephone network to a billing service plan for said identifiable individual, wherein said billing service is enabled to facilitate transfer of an electronic payment between an account provider designated in said billing plan for said identifiable individual and an account for said owner of said telephony device, such that said owner of said telephony device is electronically compensated for [said] usage of [said] the actual telephony device by said identifiable individual.

2. (Currently Amended) The method for billing for telephone usage according to claim 1, wherein usage of at least one measurable element of said telephony device comprises at least one from among possession of said telephony device, battery usage of said telephony device, and address book access[ed] from said telephony device.

AUS920010841US1

5

PATENT
10/022,611

3. (Original) The method for billing for telephone usage according to claim 1, wherein said telephony device is a wireless telephone device.

4. (Original) The method for billing for telephone usage according to claim 1, wherein said telephony device is a wireline telephone device.

5. (Currently Amended) The method for billing for telephone usage according to claim 1, further comprising:

alerting said identifiable individual, via said telephony device, to said cost per unit of actual usage specified by said owner of said telephony device [tariff] for said tracked usage of said telephony device.

6. (Currently Amended) The method for billing for telephone usage according to claim 1, further comprising:

detecting an authenticated identity of said identifiable individual;

selecting a particular cost per unit of actual usage specified by said owner of said telephony device for said authenticated identity of said identifiable individual from among a plurality of separate costs per unit of actual usage specified by said owner for each of a plurality of separate authenticated identities; and

calculating said tariff according to said particular cost per unit of actual usage specified for said authenticated identity of said identifiable individual.

AUS920010841US1

6

PATENT
10/022,611

7. (Original) The method for billing for telephone usage according to claim 1, wherein said identifiable individual is a caller.

8. (Original) The method for billing for telephone usage according to claim 1, wherein said identifiable individual is a callee.

9. (Currently Amended) A system for billing for telephone usage, said system comprising:

a tracking controller within a [connected to] a telephony device;

said tracking controller comprising:

means for tracking usage of [a] at least one measurable element of said telephony device itself by an identifiable individual, wherein said identifiable individual is distinct from an owner of said telephony device, wherein said usage of said measurable element is separate from any use of telephone service to said telephony device for a call;

means for calculating a tariff for a cost of said amount of usage of said measurable element of said telephony device by said identifiable individual based on a cost per unit of actual usage of said measurable element specified by said owner of said telephony device; and

means for transferring [a] said tariff to bill a billing plan for said identifiable individual for said tracked usage of said measurable element of said telephony device from said telephony device via a telephone network to a billing service ~~plan for said identifiable individual~~, wherein said billing service is enabled to facilitate transfer of an electronic payment between an account provider designated in said billing plan for said identifiable individual and an account for said owner of said telephony device, wherein said owner of said telephony device is electronically compensated for [said] usage of [said] the actual telephony device by said identifiable individual.

AUS920010841US1

7

PATENT
10/022,611

10. (Currently Amended) The system for billing for telephone usage according to claim 9, wherein usage of at least one measurable element of said telephony device comprises at least one from among possession of said telephony device, battery usage of said telephony device, and address book access[ed] from said telephony device.

11. (Original) The system for billing for telephone usage according to claim 9, wherein said telephony device is a wireless telephone device.

12. (Original) The system for billing for telephone usage according to claim 9, wherein said telephony device is a wireline telephone device.

13. (Currently Amended) The system for billing for telephone usage according to claim 9, further comprising:

means for alerting said identifiable individual, via said telephony device, to said cost per unit of actual usage specified by said owner of said telephony device [tariff] for said tracked usage of said telephony device.

AUS920010841US1

8

PATENT
10/022,611

14. (Currently Amended) The system for billing for telephone usage according to claim 9, further comprising:

means for detecting an authenticated identity of said identifiable individual;

means for selecting a particular cost per unit of actual usage specified by said owner of said telephony device for said authenticated identity of said identifiable individual from among a plurality of separate costs per unit of actual usage specified by said owner for each of a plurality of separate authenticated identities; and

means for calculating said tariff according to said particular cost per unit of actual usage specified for said authenticated identity of said identifiable individual.

15. (Original) The system for billing for telephone usage according to claim 9, wherein said identifiable individual is a caller.

16. (Original) The system for billing for telephone usage according to claim 9, wherein said identifiable individual is a callee.

AUS920010841US1

9

PATENT
10/022,611

17. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for billing for telephone usage, said computer program product comprising:

a recording medium;

means, recorded on said recording medium, for tracking usage of [a] at least one measurable element of said telephony device itself by an identifiable individual at said telephony device, wherein said identifiable individual is distinct from an owner of said telephony device, wherein said usage of said measurable element is separate from any use of telephone service to said telephony device for a call;

means for calculating a tariff for a cost of said amount of usage of said measurable element of said telephony device by said identifiable individual based on a cost per unit of actual usage of said measurable element specified by said owner of said telephony device; and

means, recorded on said recording medium, for transferring [a] said tariff to bill a billing plan for said identifiable individual for said tracked usage of said measurable element of said telephony device from said telephony device via a telephone network to a billing service ~~plan for~~ said identifiable individual, wherein said billing service is enabled to facilitate transfer of an electronic payment between an account provider designated in said billing plan for said identifiable individual and an account for said owner of said telephony device.

18. (Currently Amended) The computer program product for billing for telephone usage according to claim 17, further comprising:

means, recorded on said recording medium, for alerting said identifiable individual to said cost per unit of actual usage specified by said owner of said telephony device [tariff] for said tracked usage of said telephony device.

AUS920010841US1

10

PATENT
10/022,611

19. (Currently Amended) The computer program product for billing for telephone usage according to claim 17, further comprising:

means, recorded on said recording medium, for detecting an authenticated identity of said identifiable individual; and

means, recorded on said recording medium, for selecting a particular cost per unit of actual usage specified by said owner of said telephony device for said authenticated identity of said identifiable individual from among a plurality of separate costs per unit of actual usage specified by said owner for each of a plurality of separate authenticated identities; and

means, recorded on said recording medium, for calculating said tariff according to said particular cost per unit of actual usage specified for said authenticated identity of said identifiable individual.

AUS920010841US1

11

PATENT
10/022,611

20. (Currently Amended) A method for billing a non-owner for telephone usage, said method comprising:

detecting, at a billing service operating outside a trusted telephone network via a secure channel established between a telephone service provider within said trusted telephone network and said billing service, a tariff calculated at a telephony device for usage by an identifiable individual of at least one measurable element of [a] said telephony device communicatively connected with telephone service from said telephone service provider within said trusted telephone network by an identifiable individual, wherein said identifiable individual is different from an owner of said telephony device, wherein said usage of said measurable element is separate from any use of telephone service by said telephone service provider to said telephony device for a call; and

facilitating, through said billing service, transfer of an electronic payment for a cost designated in said tariff between a first account provider designated for [charging] said identifiable individual and a second account provider for said owner of said telephony device a tariff for said usage of said at least one measurable element of said origin telephony device, such that said owner is compensated for usage of said telephony device.

AUS920010841US1

12

PATENT
10/022,611

21. (Currently Amended) The method for billing a non-owner for telephone usage according to claim 20, further comprising:

receiving, at said billing service with said tariff, voice authenticated identifiers for each of said identifiable individual and said owner of said telephony device; and

retrieving, based on said voice authenticated identifiers, account providers for each of said identifiable individual and said owner of said telephony device.

~~loading a profile according to said identity of said identifiable individual for billing charges associated with a call originated from said telephony device.~~

22. (Currently Amended) The method for billing a non-owner for telephone usage according to claim 21 [20], retrieving account providers further comprising:

retrieving, based on said voice authenticated identifier for said owner, a billing plan for said owner comprising a plurality of providers each specified for handling a particular type of billing from among a plurality of types of billing accessible to said owner, wherein said second account provider is designated from among said plurality of providers for crediting tariff costs.

~~authenticating an identity of said identifiable individual.~~

PATENT
10/022,611

23. (Currently Amended) The method for billing a non-owner for telephone usage according to claim 21 [22], retrieving account providers further comprising:

retrieving, based on said voice authenticated identifier for said identifiable individual, a billing plan for said identifiable individual comprising a plurality of providers each specified for handling a particular type of billing from among a plurality of types of billing accessible to said owner, wherein said first account provider is designated from among said plurality of providers for charging tariff costs.

~~wherein said identity of said identifiable individual is authenticated according to a voice utterance provided by said identifiable individual.~~

24. (Original) The method for billing a non-owner for telephone usage according to claim 20, wherein said usage of said at least one measurable element of said telephony device occurs during a call originated from said telephony device.

25. (Original) The method for billing a non-owner for telephone usage according to claim 20, wherein said usage of said at least one measurable element of said telephony device occurs while said telephony device is in the possession of said identifiable individual.

26. (Currently Amended) The method for billing a non-owner for telephone usage according to claim 20, wherein facilitating, through said billing service, transfer of an electronic payment for a cost designated in said tariff ~~charging said identifiable individual a tariff~~ further comprises:

establishing a secure channel between said first account provider and said second account provider for a billed transaction of said electronic payment.

~~negotiating payment of said tariff from a service provider for said identifiable individual to an additional service provider for said owner.~~

AUS920010841US1

14

PATENT
10/022,611

27. (Canceled).

28. (Currently Amended) A system for billing a non-owner for telephone usage, said system comprising:

a billing service operating outside a trusted telephone network via a secure channel established between a telephone service provider within said trusted telephone network and said billing service;

said billing service comprising:

means for detecting a tariff calculated at a telephony device for usage by an identifiable individual of at least one measurable element of [a] said telephony device communicatively connected with telephone service from said telephone service provider within said trusted telephone network by an identifiable individual, wherein said identifiable individual is different from an owner of said telephony device, wherein said usage of said measurable element is separate from any use of telephone service by said telephone service provider to said telephony device for a call; and

means for facilitating transfer of an electronic payment for a cost designated in said tariff between a first account provider designated for [charging] said identifiable individual and a second account provider for said owner of said telephony device a tariff for said usage of said at least one measurable element of said origin telephony device, wherein said owner is compensated for usage of said telephony device.

AUS920010841US1

15

PATENT
10/022,611

29. (Currently Amended) The system for billing a non-owner for telephone usage according to claim 28, said billing service further comprising:

means for receiving, at said billing service with said tariff, voice authenticated identifiers for each of said identifiable individual and said owner of said telephony device; and

means for retrieving, based on said voice authenticated identifiers, account providers for each of said identifiable individual and said owner of said telephony device.

~~means for loading a profile according to said identity of said identifiable individual for billing charges associated with a call originated from said telephony device.~~

30. (Currently Amended) The system for billing a non-owner for telephone usage according to claim 29 [28], said means for retrieving account providers further comprising:

means for retrieving, based on said voice authenticated identifier for said owner, a billing plan for said owner comprising a plurality of providers each specified for handling a particular type of billing from among a plurality of types of billing accessible to said owner, wherein said second account provider is designated from among said plurality of providers for crediting tariff costs.

~~means for authenticating an identity of said identifiable individual.~~

PATENT
10/022,611

31. (Currently Amended) The system for billing a non-owner for telephone usage according to claim 29 [22], said means for retrieving account providers further comprising:

means for retrieving, based on said voice authenticated identifier for said identifiable individual, a billing plan for said identifiable individual comprising a plurality of providers each specified for handling a particular type of billing from among a plurality of types of billing accessible to said owner, wherein said first account provider is designated from among said plurality of providers for charging tariff costs.

~~wherein said identity of said identifiable individual is authenticated according to a voice utterance provided by said identifiable individual.~~

32. (Original) The system for billing a non-owner for telephone usage according to claim 28, wherein said usage of said at least one measurable element of said telephony device occurs during a call originated from said telephony device.

33. (Original) The system for billing a non-owner for telephone usage according to claim 28, wherein said usage of said at least one measurable element of said telephony device occurs while said telephony device is in the possession of said identifiable individual.

34. (Currently Amended) The system for billing a non-owner for telephone usage according to claim 28, wherein said means for facilitating transfer of an electronic payment for a cost designated in said tariff ~~charging said identifiable individual a tariff~~ further comprises:

means for establishing a secure channel between said first account provider and said second account provider for a billed transaction of said electronic payment.

~~means for negotiating payment of said tariff from a service provider for said identifiable individual to an additional service provider for said owner.~~

AUS920010841US1

17

PATENT
10/022,611

35. (Canceled).

36. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for billing a non-owner for telephone usage, said computer program product comprising:

a recording medium;

means, recorded on said recording medium, for detecting a tariff calculated at a telephony device for usage by an identifiable individual of at least one measurable element of [a] said telephony device communicatively connected with telephone service from said telephone service provider within said trusted telephone network by an identifiable individual, wherein said identifiable individual is different from an owner of said telephony device, wherein said usage of said measurable element is separate from any use of telephone service by said telephone service provider to said telephony device for a call; and

means, recorded on said recording medium, for facilitating transfer of an electronic payment for a cost designated in said tariff between a first account provider designated for [charging] said identifiable individual and a second account provider for said owner of said telephony device ~~a tariff for said usage of said at least one measurable element of said origin telephony device~~, for compensating said owner of said telephony device.

AUS920010841US1

18

PATENT
10/022,611

37. (Currently Amended) The computer program product for billing a non-owner for telephone usage according to claim 36, further comprising:

means, recorded on said recording medium, for receiving with said tariff, voice authenticated identifiers for each of said identifiable individual and said owner of said telephony device; and

means, recorded on said recording medium, for controlling retrieval, based on said voice authenticated identifiers, of account providers for each of said identifiable individual and said owner of said telephony device.

~~means, recorded on said recording medium, for loading a profile according to said identity of said identifiable individual for billing charges associated with a call originated from said telephony device.~~

38. (Currently Amended) The computer program product for billing a non-owner for telephone usage according to claim 36, further comprising:

means, recorded on said recording medium, for retrieving, based on said voice authenticated identifier for said owner, a billing plan for said owner comprising a plurality of providers each specified for handling a particular type of billing from among a plurality of types of billing accessible to said owner, wherein said second account provider is designated from among said plurality of providers for crediting tariff costs.

~~means, recorded on said recording medium, for authenticating an identity of said identifiable individual.~~

AUS920010841US1

19

PATENT
10/022,611

39. (Currently Amended) The computer program product for billing a non-owner for telephone usage according to claim 36, wherein facilitating transfer of an electronic payment for a cost designated in said tariff ~~charging said identifiable individual a tariff~~ further comprises:

means, recorded on said recording medium, for establishing a secure channel between said first account provider and said second account provider for a billed transaction of said electronic payment.

~~means, recorded on said recording medium, for negotiating payment of said tariff from a service provider for said identifiable individual to an additional service provider for said owner.~~

40. (Cancelled).

AUS920010841US1

20